Forest dwellers

1069. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is necessary to carryout the 'declare bonafide' forest dwellers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some forest dwellers belonging to Scheduled Tribes are being evicted from the forest areas and wildlife sanctuaries; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P.R. KYNDIAH): (a) and (b) The Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006, implemented by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, seeks to recognize and vest the forest rights and occupation in forest land in forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes and other traditional forest dwellers who have been residing in such forests for generations but whose rights could not be recoreded. The 'forest dwelling Scheduled Tribes' and 'other traditional forest dwellers', for the purposes of the said Act, are defined in Section 2(c) and 2(o) of the Act. A copy of the Act is available on the website (www.tribal.gov.in) of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

(c) and (d) There is no case reported by the State/UT Government regarding eviction of forest dwellers belonging to Scheduled Tribes. However, the Government of India in the Ministry of Environment & Forests has issued guidelines to the States/UT Governments *vide* their letter dated 21.2.2004 for discontinuance of eviction of Tribals. Further, Section 4 (5) of the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act, 2006 also provides that no member of a forest dwelling Scheduled Tribe or other traditional forest dweller shall be evicted or removed from forest land under his occupation till the recognition and verfication procedure is complete.

Atrocities and violence against women

†1070. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of incidents of atrocities and violence against women like kidnapping, rape, burning them till death during the last three years till date, in various States of the country; and

(b) the efforts being made of Government to stop the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) The information compiled by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), Ministry of Home Affairs for the years 2004-2005 and 2006 is in the Annexure.

[See Appendix 213 Annexure No. 2]

(b) Action to curb crimes against women and proposals for their empowerment is an ongoing exercise as detailed in the enclosed statement.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

Detail of action to curb crimes against women and proposals for their empowerment

Law and order and other criminal matters is a State subject under the Constitution and therefore the direct responsibility for dealing with enforcement of the concerned Acts is that of the State Governments and the mechanisms under them. The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes against women is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/UT Administrations. However, the Government of India has initited a number of measures to check such crimes, such as:—

- Enacted the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005 which provides for more effective protection of the Constitutional rights of women who are victims of violence of any kind occurring within the family including any unlawful demand for dowry.
- setting up of help lines for women in distress under the Swadhar Scheme.
- support services to victims of violence through schemes such as Short Stay Homes and Swadhar under which shelter maintenance, counseling, capacity building, occupational training, medical aid and other services provided.
- A scheme has been formulated on 13.11.2007 to change the mindset of the society towards the girl child and view her as an asset and not a burden namely, Conditional Cash Transfer with Insurance Cover Scheme" The scheme provides for cash transfers to family of the girl child (preferably the mother) on fulfilling certain conditionalities such as birth and registration of the girl child immunization, enrollment to school; retention in school, delaying the marriage age beyond 18 18 years. Insurance cover is also proposed for the girl child as a safety net and to enable the girl to receive a lump sum at the age of 18 years.
- launching of a comprehensive scheme under the name "Ujjawala" on 4.12.2007 for victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. The scheme has five components Prevention, Rescue, Rehabilitation, Re-integration and Repatriation.
- redressal of grievances through interventions of National and State Commissions for Women.
- organizing legal literacy and legal Awareness Camps.
- implementation of schemes for (i) awareness generation and advocacy and (ii) economic empowerment of women through the programmes of Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, Swashakti Project, Swayamsidha Project, Swawlamban Programme and Support to Training & Employment Programme (STEP).
- review of laws with a view to remove provisions which may be discriminatory to women and to enhance punishments for crimes against women.
- sensitization of Judiciary and police and civil administration on gender issues.
- follow up of reports of cases of atrocities against women received from varous sources, including NCW, with concerned authorities in the Central and the State Governments.

Apart from legislative changes in the relevant Acts, instructions/guidelines have been issued to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations to effectively enforce legislation relating to crimes against women and monitor the enforcement and to give more focused attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system and to take such measures as are necessary for the prevention of crime against women and other vulnerable sections of society. The measures suggested include:

- sensitizing of police officials charged with the responsibility of protecting the women.
- vigorously enforce the existing legislation relating to dowry violence.
- set up women police cells in police stations and exclusive women police stations.
- provide institutional support to the victims of violence.
- provide counseling to victims of rape.
- take measures to eliminate trafficking in women. States have also been advised to constitute State Advisory Committees to advise on trafficking matters.
- ensure wider recruitment of women police officers.
- train police personnel in special lawas dealing with atrocities against women.
- setting up of Fast Track Courts.
- seting up of Family Courts.
- appointment of Dowry Prohibition Officers and notification of Rules under the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961.

Ujjawala scheme

1071. SHRI SHANTARAM LAXMAN NAIK: Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme Ujjawala is being implemented in Goa;

(b) if so, the names of implementing agencies to whom financial assistance has been given since commencement of the scheme, implementing agency-wise;

(c) the details of achievements made by these agencies during the period; and

(d) the details of deficiencies, if any, in implementing or in achieving the target?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) to (d) No proposal under Ujjawala Scheme has been received from the State Government of Goa.

Inclusion of Orissa in ICDS

1072. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:
SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Orissa has been excluded from the World Bank supported Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Programme and the Orissa Government has written to the Centre for inclusion of the State as well in this project.